

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06

TRSE-00 EUR-12 ERDA-05 ISO-00 /036 W

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R 071920Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 4592

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 36174

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, CH, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH CINETHEODOLITES TO CHINA--IL 1502

REF: (A) OECD PARIS 29639, (B) COCOM DOC (72) 2528

1. UNDER DATE OF DECEMBER 6, USDEL HAS AT LAST RECEIVED
PROMISED FRENCH REPLY. TRANSLATION OF ESSENTIAL PORTION
FOLLOWS.

"IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 9, 1976, EXPRESSING
THE DESIRE OF YOUR AUTHORITIES TO BE INFORMED OF THE
END USE OF 3 CINETHEODOLITES DELIVERED TO CHINA, I HAVE
THE HONOR TO ADVISE YOU THAT THESE DEVICES HAVE BEEN
INSTALLED ON THE AIRPORT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF TIENTSIN
WHOSE ESSENTIALLY CIVIL PURPOSE IS BEYOND DISPUTE.
THE INSTALLATION WAS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE TECHNICAL
RESPONSIBILITY OF FRENCH EXPERTS.

"UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE IS NO REASON TO FEAR
A DIVERSION OF THESE CINETHEODOLITES TO MILITARY PUR-
POSES. IN FACT, THEY ARE DEVICES OF LIMITED RANGE,
DESIGNED FOR THE TRACKING OF NEARBY MOVING OBJECTS.
(MOBILES RAPPROCHES) BECAUSE OF THIS, IT WOULD BE
DIFFICULT TO USE THESE DEVICES FOR THE TRACKING, FROM
THE AIRPORT SYSTEM OF TIENTSIN, OF MOVING OBJECTS
TRAVELING IN THE VICINITY OF OTHER DISTANT MILITARY
AIRFIELDS.

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"FINALLY, NO ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT PERMITTING THE USE OF THESE DEVICES WITH RADARS OR COMPUTERS HAS BEEN SHIPPED TO CHINA TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES, IN ANY EVENT FROM FRANCE.

"SINCE THESE DETAILS RESULT FROM A THOROUGHGOING INVESTIGATION, YOU WILL SURELY UNDERSTAND THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION."

2. COPY OF FRENCH REPLY IS BEING POUCHED TO PRACHT.
TURNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, EXCEPTIONS LIST, EXPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OECDP36174
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760452-1331
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761266/aaaacezy.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 OECD PARIS 29639
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH CINETHEODOLITES TO CHINA--IL 1502
TAGS: ESTC, CH, FR, COCOM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006